

## Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:  
receiving an encrypted communication at a second transfer unit in a second host, the communication sent by a first process to be encrypted by a first transfer unit in a first host;  
decrypting the communication at the second transfer unit; and  
transferring the decrypted communication between the second transfer unit and a second process within the second host.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein a first plurality of processes are provided within the first host and a second plurality of processes are provided within the second host.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the first plurality of processes within the first host can communicate securely with each other and the second plurality of processes within the second host can communicate securely with each other.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the first plurality of processes can communicate simultaneously with each other and the second plurality of processes can communicate simultaneously with each other.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the encrypted communication is transferred through a connection.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the connection is a single-pipe connection.
7. A machine-readable storage medium tangibly embodying a sequence of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method, the method comprising the steps of:  
  
receiving an encrypted communication at a second transfer unit in a second host, the communication sent by a first process to a first transfer unit to be encrypted in a first host;  
  
decrypting the communication at the second transfer unit; and  
  
transferring the decrypted communication between the second transfer unit and a second process within the second host.
8. The machine-readable medium of claim 7, wherein a first plurality of processes are provided within the first host and a second plurality of processes are provided within the second host.
9. The machine-readable medium of claim 8, wherein the first plurality of processes within the first host can communicate securely with each other and the second plurality of processes within the second host can communicate securely with each other.
10. The machine-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the first plurality of processes can communicate simultaneously with each other and the second plurality of processes can communicate simultaneously with each other.

11. The machine-readable medium of claim 7, wherein the encrypted communication is transferred through a connection.
12. The machine-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the connection is a single-pipe connection.
13. A system comprising:
  - a first process in a first host; and
  - a second process in a second host, the second process receiving communication from the first process, the communication having been encrypted by a first transfer unit in the first host and received by a second transfer unit within the second host to decrypt the communication in order to be transferred to the second process.
14. The system of claim 13, wherein a first plurality of processes are provided within the first host and a second plurality of processes are provided within the second host.
15. The system of claim 14, wherein the first plurality of processes within the first host can communicate securely with each other and the second plurality of processes within the second host can communicate securely with each other.
16. The system of claim 15, wherein the first plurality of processes can communicate simultaneously with each other and the second plurality of processes can communicate simultaneously with each other.

17. The system of claim 13, wherein the encrypted communication is transferred through a connection.
18. The system of claim 17, wherein the connection is a single-pipe connection.